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The Christian Socialist

The Golden Rule Against the Rule of Gold

Entered as Second Class Matter January 31, 1907, at the Post Office in Chicago, Illinois, Under Act of March 3d, 1879

The Name of the CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST is Registered in the Patent Office at Washington as a TRADE MARK of the Co-Operative Printing Company

Tenth Year. No. 12 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, JULY 1, 1913 5c Per Copy. $1.00 Per Year

Interest Taking Contrary To Scripture and Also Bad Economics

Declares Prof. Albion W. Small, Head of Dept. of Sociology In Chicago University

(From the Chicago Daily News.)

Abolition of interest on capital not directly engaged in production is being advocated by Prof. Albion W. Small, head of the department of sociology at the University of Chicago and president of the American Sociological society. His ideas are treated at length in a book, "Between Eras," soon to appear from the press.

"There should be no income except from labor and nature," said Prof. Small. "Mere ownership of money or land should not bring additional wealth to the owner unless he is at the same time a producer. My doctrine applies not only to money loaned, but also to land which is rented and to other business methods of the present day. The whole economic and social theory which modern business takes for granted is radically mistaken.

"I am not an opponent of capital, but I do oppose capitalism, and capitalism is that business phenomenon which increases private wealth without actual production. I believe that the only producers of wealth are nature and labor, which supply the power while capital is merely the grist and the millstone.

Profits by Ownership Only

"Take the case of a man who owns a section of land in the country, rents it out and moves to town. As long as he has possession of that land he gets money for it, not because he is producing anything on the land, but merely because he owns it. Or, take the man who buys land near the center of a growing town and holds his acres for a rise in values. When the ten or twenty fold increase comes after thirty years is the owner deserving of that profit? No! The owner has produced nothing. He has merely owned the land.

"In the matter of simple interest, is it natural that gold bullion deposited in a bank can make gold increase, or, in other words, produce more gold bullion? Not at all. Corn, wheat and oats increase naturally, but gold cannot. But when gold is made to increase as it is made by our present business methods, then there is something wrong—we are on a false lead, and the whole theory of the productivity of capital is absurd.

Wants Interest Abolished

"I may be the first of the modern thinkers to advocate the abolition of interest, but certainly not the first in the world. In the Bible we find many passages which show that the taking of interest was regarded as criminal, both before and after Christ. The old Mosaic law contained a number of passages against usury. Usury in those days had a different meaning than we now give it. Usury was the taking of any interest, not excessive interest as we now regard it.

"It is interesting to note that money was first paid for the use of money when the loan was made between strange or hostile tribes, or nations. Interest was never taken when the loan was between friends.

Roman Church Legislates

"Continuing from Bible times down through the middle ages we find the Roman church legislating against the taking of interest, and only desisting from it as commercialism advanced in Europe. Since the discovery of America interest has become a common thing, and may be called a modern development.

"A classical reference to the time when the taking of interest was coming into vogue is in Shakespeare's 'Merchant of Venice.' Shylock hates Antonio because:

"'He lends our money gratis and brings down the rates of usance here in Venice. * * * He rails on me, my bargains, and my well won thrift, which he calls interest.'

"Of course there are many details which must be worked out before business men will think this theory is at all reasonable. I am not at all opposed to capital, but to capitalism. I realize that a man must have a fair return for his labor and shrewdness, but only when that labor and shrewdness are engaged in actual production. Nature and labor are the only true sources of wealth. There can be no others."

Caught With the Goods

Dr. Small is correct about interest being wrong economically, but he is far from being "the first modern thinker to say so." All Socialist writers have said so for more than sixty years. Recently Dr. Small declared that many teachers of sociology are plagarizing Karl Marx—and his own (reported) claim of being "the first modern thinker" to condemn interest is a striking illustration of such direct plagarism.

As to interest being unscriptural, Dr. Small must have been reading the **Christian Socialist**, which for ten years has been proving that the Bible condemns interest.

However, we are glad to welcome the head of the Department of Sociology of the Chicago University to the ranks of Socialistic agitators in behalf of the new era. "Between Eras" must mean that he expects the new era soon.

Our Daily Bread

Industrial Struggle Approaching the Crisis

By Rev. G. D. Brookes

Each year is making more acute the question of "our daily bread," and evermore justifying the wisdom of Jesus in linking the bread-question with the most sacred act of our life—prayer. Many people, of course, are still finding it difficult to see the full significance of this teaching of Jesus, being in a similar condition to the one Peter was in when the Lord had to give him a special revelation from heaven to make him know that what God has cleansed he has no right to call unclean—what God has joined together man has no right to put asunder; and Jesus unquestionably put the bread question into his model prayer—The Prayer of the Kingdom. The heaven-given soul is imprisoned in an earth-given body and limited by earthly conditions; and the question is forcing itself to the front today: How many souls are being sacrificed by lack of bread—a question that is thundering for an answer all over the civilized world.

Our Common Needs

Bread represents our common earthly needs: they are food, clothing, and shelter. If we add culture and fellowship we make the list about complete. By culture I include all that comes from education, books, travel, etc.; and by fellowship I include all that is found in home, church, and society. These things cover about all that a human being can need; other things are a means of obtaining these, and are to be tested by their ability to produce these. Even the much-coveted money is of no value only as it helps in the supplying of these, our common needs.

Our Father's Supply

When we look at the world in which God our Father has placed us we find that He has not been stingy with regard to supplying our needs. Any one who will look at the Bible in such places as Genesis 1 and 2, Deuteronomy 8, Psalm 104, Luke 12, and, in fact, almost everywhere, will find that the Heavenly Father does concern Himself with just this business of caring for our temporal bodily needs, and that He does it with a lavish hand. True, the supreme lesson of life is "That men shall not live by bread alone;" but the Father recognizes that **the child must have bread.** The lower animals do (I suppose) live on bread only—physical food; the angels (supposedly) live without physical food; but man, being both animal and angel, must have both if he would continue to be a man. And his Father has made ample provision for both his spiritual and physical needs. That picture in Deuteronomy 8 of "A good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs flowing forth in valleys and hills; a land of wheat and barley, and vines and fig trees and pomegranites; a land of olive trees and honey; a **land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack anything in it;** a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig copper. **And thou shalt eat and be full, and thou shalt bless Jehovah thy God for the good land which He hath given thee."** That picture is not confined to Palestine; it is a picture of these United States of America, and God's design for this land and people and all lands and all people is the same as was His design for ancient Israel. The in our land **enough for each, enough for all, and enough for evermore.**

Modern Machinery

Another thing to be noticed is, that with the invention and multiplication of modern machinery it has become easy to produce and distribute all the supplies for all our needs. Thanks to the inventors, the promotors, and the great captains of industry, commerce, and transportation (some of them men "of whom the world is not worthy" and others of them men not worthy of the world), we now need lack nothing at any time or in any place. Famine, national or sectional, or even scarceness need cause us no fear. The steam engine and the telegraph have brought the world's harvests and the world's needs together. **Destitution or want in any place today is a crime against God and man and the world in which he has placed us.**

Poverty Abounds

And yet what awful poverty abounds! As one reads such books as Hunter's "POVERTY," and "HOW THE OTHER HALF LIVES," by Riis; or "THE BITTER CRY OF THE CHILDREN," by Spargo, one questions whether ever in all the world's history there have existed such dire poverty, misery, and starvation. On the one hand wealth abounds as never before; plenty and luxury in some places rolling over each other, men and women getting more than they can waste, let alone use; and on the other hand men, women, and children needing (O, with what famished bodies and lives needing) more than they can possibly get! Americans have long pointed the finger at the poverty of Germany, England, and other sister countries; but we now need not go so far from home; for the same conditions that prevail in those older countries are forcing themselves upon us here, and—O, how rapidly, American fashion, they are coming! There has been a great amount of boasting over the fact that America is forging to the front as an industrial and commercial nation and driving our German and English cousins to the rear. Is that a good thing to glory in? Is it a good thing for one man to drive a fellowman to the ditch? Is it a good thing for one nation to drive another nation to the ditch? **IT IS OUR TURN NEXT!!** Japan and China are getting our methods and machines just as rapidly as possible, and it is a question of only a very short time before they will be able to undersell us in the markets of the world. And many things will be found to be in their favor and against us as the days go by. **American supremacy is doomed just as really as is English**; and both English and American will be compelled to get together to find another solution of their industrial problems—a solution which will satisfy not only England and America, but a solution that will satisfy the whole of the civilized world—and the sooner we get at the question and find the answer the better it will be for the future of both England and America—and the whole world.

American Capitalism Blunders

And the solution will never be found in pitting cheap labor against costly labor, nor in pitting cheap labor against cheap labor. American capitalists never made a greater blunder than in thinking that by pulling down the high standards of American laborers they are on the way to victory. They may smash the unions, but just as surely as they do a greater power will grow in their place. Every knock on the head of unionism is only helping to make that head turn toward something better—the ballot-box. The working-man has a vote, and some time soon he is going to learn how to use it. The process is absolutely irresistible; the workers of the world are marching like a mighty phalanx towards the last great citadel of oppression—privilege in government—and nothing can stop them from winning the ultimate victory. It may be postponed for a while by using the incoming immigrants, but it is only a question of a very short time until the immigrant and his children will rise up and make the same demands he sees his American fellow-worker making, and then both immigrant and native worker [illegible] hands in one [illegible]—**and THE VICTORY WILL BE WON FOR MANKIND.**

Thriftlessness and Intemperance

There is a great hue and cry about thriftlessness and intemperance; and there is no denying that it would be a mighty boon to many homes today if all our men were to become sober and thrifty, but even if all the men of America were to become sober and thrifty the same industrial conditions would prevail ultimately. The existing tendencies are driving the temperate and thrifty to the ditch just as relentlessly as they are driving the intemperate and thriftless to the ditch. The good and worthless alike go under, for present conditions "are no respecter of persons." The tendency itself is good, just as is the machinery that has produced it. Centralization of capital is one of the most desirable things in modern life. The great question is, what relation shall this centralized money-power sustain to the government and to the people? Shall it be a plutocratic oligarchy apart from and above the people? or shall it be an industrial democracy—wealth of, by and for the people? Shall we act as if God had given His world to a few of His children, and govern ourselves accordingly? or shall we realize that the whole earth belongs to the whole people—the people of tomorrow as really as to the people of today, and act accordingly? Which shall it be? That is the question of today; it is the question around which the banners of the battlefields of the world's politics are unfurled, and upon the answering of which depends the daily bread—and so the life of countless millions of God's children—our brothers.

The Way Out

We cannot gather together the children of men today as did Moses the children of Israel thirty centuries ago and take them to some promised land in the distance. There is no land today that is "The Promised Land" any more really than this land is. We must find our Canaan right here, or make one. The Westward march of humanity is about at an end; there are no more promised lands to conquer, for when the foot of civilization touched the great Pacific a new day dawned for humanity and a new era started in history.

Every great question is fundamentally a moral and spiritual one, even though it is commonly supposed to be just politics. The question of our daily bread is a moral and spiritual one, as well as a political one; and it depends upon three things—man's being right with his God, his being right with his fellowman, and his having a workable system of living as a social being.

Just as soon as man shall learn the meaning of that sublime word of Jesus, "OUR FATHER," and shall realize himself as a son of the Heavenly Father and all men (who are, as the Bible tells us, "made of one blood") as brothers, we shall be in a better spirit to look at these questions of politics—questions concerning our living together in family life, the family life of society. To this end we all ought to work and pray; it is perhaps the biggest task on earth. But the other side of the question should not be neglected. Indeed, as the right-hearted men increase in numbers it is easily conceivable that their attitude toward that question might change. If Jesus were here today as He was two thousand years ago; and if He had the chance of organizing a vote powerful enough of His followers, would He neglect His opportunity? Not at all. He would take the upward step. And in fact that is just what His people have done in a hundred things. They have abolished by politics one great social evil after another in wonderful fashion. Bull-baiting, cock-fighting, prize-fighting and many other things, including recently chattel-slavery, have gone down before the strong arm of organized society; and we all say Amen. And many of us are now beginning to realize that it is time, high time, to take another step forward in the redemption of man and do our part towards redemption from industrial slavery. This work is just as really sacred as any other kind of work our Heavenly Father has given us to do, and it is just as perilous to neglect this as it is to neglect any other part of His great work. The whole earth belongs to the whole people, and it contains an abundant supply for all the people's needs. Modern machinery has made it infinitely easy to produce and distribute all the supplies for our needs; and it is time we began to inquire whether there is not some way by which it can be done better than it is being done.

The modern machine has caused nearly all of our modern industrial trouble. It has caused a revolution in society. And yet it is one of the very best gifts God has ever allowed to come to earth. All we need, and what we must have, is some sort of a re-adjustment of the machine to society. It must become not the instrument for the aggrandizement of a few but the instrument for the welfare of the many. It ought to be one of our very best body and life savers, saving men from doing by human power things that can be done by mechanical power, and so redeeming man for the higher life, the life of the promised land. Why should not our machinery become our social habits? The machines, like the earth, belong to the people, and both earth and people belong to each other and to God. Let us try find a way out and live it.

Co-operation Versus Competition.

It is coming to be realized that competition is not the life of trade, as it has been so loudly and so long proclaimed; but that it is the death of trade. Competition means contest, and in the nature of things two contestants cannot amicably occupy the same space—one must die or be defeated. We need a commonwealth where not competition shall be the supreme principle of our system but where it shall be co-operation. Men must learn to get together as brothers and live for each other's welfare. Says the Apostle, "Let no man seek his own, but each his neighbor's good." That is the supreme principle of Christianity, it is the heart of the Atonement; it means the best living for the rest. That is what Jesus did, and it is what makes a man a Christian today. Not the subscribing to a creed, not the performing of an ordinance, not repeating of a ritual, but the living of a principle, "The good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep." Jesus did not think that "being on an equality with God was a thing to be grasped at"—it was not in His plans to grasp at great things for Himself, but "He emptied Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" for the welfare of the men of the earth. How this looks beside the grasping and grabbing of our modern leaders in society. Is personal aggrandizement the chief incentive to activity today? Is selfishness the dominant trait of our character? Where is competition taking us? Where will it take us? Is it not time we began to feel our way toward a "more excellent way?" Love in the gospel of Jesus Christ means self-giving; and the opposite of love is selfishness. Which controls modern industrial and commercial methods? How much have we accepted "the mind of Christ?" Just in so far as we have accepted the mind of Christ we have repented; and if we have not accepted His mind—His spirit, His principles, His purposes, we have not repented; and if we are not living the mind of Christ we are not converted, we are not Christians in the full sense of that word. Some of us have repented a little bit, and have been converted a little bit; and it is time we began to ask ourselves the questions—How much have I repented? How much have I been converted? How much am I a Christian? And we need to begin applying the same question to our social institutions, including the church, How much has our church repented and been converted? How much has our modern social system adopted the mind of Christ—His spirit, principles, purposes? The kingdom of God is a social ideal for the earth; and it means that His will is to be done on earth as it is done in heaven, or as it was done on earth by Jesus. That means that the kingdom of God will come just as soon and just so far as men begin to live together like as if they were all Christs. When that time comes the question of our daily bread will be easily answered. Selfishness will die and men will co-operate for the common good, the welfare of all.

Just to Recapitulate

Jesus linked prayer and bread our common needs. Our common needs are food, clothing, shelter, culture, and fellowship. God has placed an abundance of these at our disposal. Modern machinery has made it infinitely easy to produce and distribute all the world can need. Some are getting more than they need, while others (the larger number) are needing more than they can get. Capitalism does not point the way out but there is a way out, it is in the substitution of co-operation for competition; and the gospel of Jesus shows this to be the principle of the Kingdom of God.

SOCIALISTIC BACCALAUREATE

Rev. James Waite of Burgettstown, Pa., preached a notable baccalaureate sermon to the high school graduates and their friends. It was strongly Christian throughout, as becometh the pastor of Westminster church, and it took such high ground against serving mammon in the name of Christ, and condemned the capitalist system so clearly that the Socialists were much pleased.

Brother Waite revealed both his intelligence and his courage by using such an opportunity for speaking vital Socialist truths to young people and their relatives at such a significant time. His example should be imitated by every Socialist preacher whenever possible. He said in part:

"The law of mammon in business must be superceded by the law of love. * * * A different spirit and method rules the home than dominates in business. The law which rules the modern business world is as incompatible with the spirit of Christ as fire with water. Business is the unregenerated portion of our social order."

"The wages paid industrial workers will not support a home—not even a poor one. Dr. Batten says that in New York 40 per cent of the people have only one room per family, and that this condition is duplicated in 18 of our largest cities. Capitalist business is not planned to maintain homes, but to make profits even though the home be sacrificed."

"It is the spirit of mammon ruling in business that fills communities with smoldering hate. This spirit arrays great classes against each other in the bitter struggle of contending interests. These two classes stand in the world old relation of master and servant, and every intelligent man knows that the relation between these two classes is one of growing strife and bitterness."

"Mammonized business is a destroyer of life, a despoiler of the home, a debaser of womanhood, a disturber of brotherhood, and an enemy to God. Christ's law is love, and He has declared war on everything that debases life. Mammon's law is profit, and it wars against all that ennobles. Will you not give yourself to Christ, put on the whole armor of God and unite with others of like mind to conquor the kingdom of business and make it a part of the kingdom of God?"

A PROPAGANDA BATTERING RAM

By L. E. Katterfeld

Here is a brief summary of the two years' work of the Socialist Party Lyceum Department:

Cash handled by the Lyceum Department, $161,416.63.

Meetings addressed by organizers and lecturers, 5,090.

Total audiences over 1,000,000.

Subscription certificates redeemed, 138,720.

Total literature sold by subscriptions and at meetings, over $175,000.00.

Propaganda leaflets sold and distributed, 3,600,000.

Total advertising distributed over 7,000,000.

Free publicity secured for Socialism in capitalist press about 1,500 columns, worth at least $15,000.

Increased Party membership by more than 10,000.

Increased interest of women in the Socialist Party work.

Educated our own membership through emphasis of Socialist fundamentals.

Caused many thousands of Party members who ordinarily take no active part in the movement to devote all their spare time to Socialist propaganda.

Trained hundreds of secretaries in detail work, fitting them for greater service in the Party.

Secured a greater measure of co-operation among State Secretaries, speakers, publishers, locals and individual comrades than had ever been achieved before.

Is it any wonder that 19 out of every 20 locals that have done the Lyceum work are voting to continue it?

Report of Debs, Berger and Germer Concerning West Virginia Situation

Conditions Among Miners Beggars Description

Mother Jones and Other Socialist Prisoners Freed—Gov. Hatfield Promises to Enforce the Law

Charleston, W. Va., May 26th, 1913.

To the National Committee of the Socialist Party:

Comrades:

"Pursuant to your instructions the undersigned committee, appointed by your body, proceeded to West Virginia to investigate the situation growing out of the strike in the mining regions of that state. Germer and Debs arrived at Charleston, the capital of the state, the local headquarters of the United Mine Workers, and in close proximity to the strike zone, on the evening of May 17th, and Berger on the evening of the 20th. The committee lost no time in getting in touch with the local comrades, including those in prison, and the striking miners. Every available source of reliable information was sought out and diligently examined. Scores of persons were interviewed and the stories of scores of strikers were heard.

"From the hour of our arrival we were 'spotted' by the henchmen of the mine owners. We could not leave our hotel without being shadowed. Friendly persons identified the detectives and warned us against them. At the same time rumors of all kinds were in circulation, the most persistent one being that we would soon be arrested and sent to prison.

"However, nothing came of this, and we continued our investigation for several days, deciding finally to seek an interview with Governor Hatfield. The second day after this request was made through the governor's private secretary word came that the governor was willing to meet Debs, but not the rest of the committee. Debs at once refused to meet the governor unless he was willing to receive the entire committee. Berger and Germer, however, expressed themselves in favor of Debs calling on the governor as a possible means of opening the way for a general hearing, it being understood that any action to be binding must first have the approval of the committee.

"Accompanied by Thomas Haggerty, leading official in charge of the United Mine Workers in West Virginia, Debs proceeded to the office of Governor Hatfield on the morning of the 22nd, and a detailed interview followed, the governor passing in review over his official acts relating to the trouble in the coal fields, beginning with his inauguration March 4th, 1913, and Debs pointing out wherein he believed him to be wrong, especially in having suppressed the Socialist papers and imprisoned their editors and employes.

"It should be noted that in the very beginning of the interview Debs frankly stated to the governor that he was there under protest; that inasmuch as the governor had declined to meet the entire committee Debs had declined to meet him and that it was only upon the express wish of his colleagues that he had consented to the interview.

"The governor disclaimed responsibility for certain acts with which he had been unjustly charged. He had not declared martial law, but asserted that he was as much opposed to it as any one could possibly be. He had inherited martial law from Governor Glasscock, his predecessor, and the reason he permitted it to remain effective was because he was requested to do so by the union miners themselves to prevent them and their organizers from being assaulted and beaten up by the Baldwin-Feltz thugs in the employ of the mine owners. This statement of the governor was subsequently verified by all the officials and organizers of the United Mine Workers.

"To show that he was endeavoring to give the miners a square deal, the governor pointed out that he had a mine superintendent and two mine guards in jail at that very hour and that he had refused to release them on bail offered by the operators. He also pointed out that when two organizers were beaten up a few days previously by the thugs of the mine owners he promptly offered a reward of $100.00 for their arrest and he emphatically declared that if apprehended they would be given the full limit of the law.

"The day previous to this interview the governor had unconditionally released all our comrades from prison, including John W. Brown, Fred Merrick, C. H. Boswell, W. K. Thompson, George S. Parsons and a number of others. Mother Jones had been set free some time previously. Shortly afterward Dan Shane, who had been sentenced to the penitentiary by the military commission, was given his liberty by the governor, so that not one of our comrades remained in custody.

"In this connection the governor referred to the fact that not in a single instance had he affirmed a conviction of the military commission and that while his affirmation would have sent a number of our comrades to the penitentiary he had, on the contrary, granted them their unconditional release. He further claimed that he had abundant evidence with which to convict some of the leading strikers in the civil courts, but that he had not felt disposed to press the cases against them.

"Interrogated upon the several points at issue in the coal strike, Governor Hatfield pointed to the volume of statutes on his desk and said: 'There is my guide; that is the law and I shall endeavor to impartially execute it.' The governor unhestatingly declared that workingmen had the right to organize and that he would protect them in that right to the extent of his power; that Socialists had the same right that republicans and democrats have; that they were entitled to the right of free speech and free assemblage and to the full protection of the law.

"As to the Socialist papers that had been suppressed, the governor seemed to realize the gravity of his injustice when he said these papers could resume publication any time they wished to do so.

"This in brief was the substance of the first interview, in the course of which Debs asked the governor to meet the entire committee, which he readily agreed to do.

"On the same afternoon the entire committee met the governor in his office by appointment. The ground was again covered in detail and the same statements by the governor were repeated to the committee. The governor informed us that we were at liberty to go anywhere we pleased in the pursuit of our mission, and assured us that he was not opposed to the impending senatorial investigation.

"We have no desire to exculpate Governor Hatfield for any act he is justly responsible for, but it is undoubtedly true that he has been accused of wrongs which were committed under the administration of Governor Glasscock, his predecessor, to whose official spinelessness and subserviency to the mine owners are mainly due the outrages which so long disgraced West Virginia in the eyes of the nation.

It was under the administration of Glasscock, and not Hatfield, that martial law was declared; that the military commission was created; that Mother Jones, John Brown, C. H. Boswell and numerous others were court martialed and convicted; and it was also under the Glasscock administration that an armored train, in the name of law and order, shot up the cabins and tents of miners, dealing out death and destruction under cover of darkness, an outrage so infamous that it will remain forever as a foul and indelible blot upon the state in which it was perpetrated.

"Governor Hatfield's administration is not free from censure, but the terrible conditions which prevailed when he came into office should be taken into account when his acts are considered. Beset upon every side with hostile elements and in the center of fiercely contending factions, it would have been a miracle if he had escaped without bitter condemnation. The one act of his administration which stands out as utterly without warrant and subject to the severest censure is the suppression of the two Socialist papers, the Star and the Argus, both outside the martial law zone, and the imprisonment of their editors and attaches. For this arbitrary and despotic act there is no warrant in justice or under the law, and it becomes especially odious and reprehensible when it is considered that the office of the Star was demolished, its forms, ready to go to press, battered up and its property destroyed and scattered in all directions, and as if this had not been sufficiently outrageous, the home of the editor, Thompson, after he had been seized and removed, entered, searched and burglarized, to which an ill and terrified wife was compelled to bear witness, after the hour of midnight and under the protest of the sheriff and local authorities. This dastardly crime cannot be too severely condemned and complete financial reimbursement would be the very least reparation that could possibly be made.

"In this connection it is but just to say that the governor and his friends disavow knowledge of these outrages beyond the suppression of the papers and the arrest of the editors, declaring that the other wanton acts above referred to were wholly unauthorized.

"It should also be said that the governor and his friends positively disavow the threat alleged to have been made by Governor Hatfield, and for which he has been so bitterly denounced, that he would deport from the state all miners who refused to accept the terms of settlement with the operators and resume work in the coal fields. It is emphatically denied that any such threat was ever made.

"Beginning with the 24th inst., we visited the Cabin Creek, Paint Creek and New River districts, in the order mentioned, attended in the first two by Mr. Moore, the governor's assistant private secretary, whose services he tendered and which the committee accepted. The governor, on behalf of the state, also tendered the use of a special train to the committee, which was respectfully declined.

"At the Cabin Creek and Paint Creek districts, accompanied over the entire route by numerous miners familiar with the situation, the committee made a house to house and tent to tent canvass, hearing the stories of men, women and children and witnessing scenes of horror and desolation which beggar description.

"The reports of the outrages perpetrated upon the defenseless miners and their families during the Glasscock administration have not in the least been exaggerated. Houses and tents were shot up indiscriminately from an armored train in the darkness of night; men were assaulted and women insulted by the dastardly mine thugs and even little children were not spared.

"As all these atrocious crimes against the striking miners and their families will be brought out fully in the senatorial investigation now under way and placed before the country for its edification as to the despotic misrule of the criminal mine barons, we refrain from the attempt to chronicle them in this report. Indeed, we could scarcely begin to do justice to the subject without making this report far too voluminous for the limited space in our press and for general circulation.

"A distinctive victory has been achieved in forcing this investigation upon the mine barons of West Virginia in spite of their combined efforts to defeat it. Henceforward there will be a decided change in the situation. The investigation will bring the facts to light and every effort should be made on the part of the miners and their friends to have the whole of these facts in all their grewsome details brought out and placed upon record.

By act of the legislature recently adjourned the mine guard system, which was one of the prime causes of the trouble and a source of unceasing brutality and terror to the miners, was practically abolished, and for the first time in the history of industrial West Virginia the miners and other workers can now organize unions and hold labor meetings free from the interference of the private thugs and sluggers of the mine owners, whom Governor Hatfield is pledged to do all in his official power to entirely suppress.

"The great trouble with West Virginia, as Governor Hatfield explained, is that hundreds of thousands of acres of coal lands are owned by great corporations, aliens for the most part, such as Guggenheim for instance, who care nothing about the miners and nothing about West Virginia beyond their own heartless exploitation. Vast areas, including entire mountains and valleys, are their private preserves, patrolled by their own private guards, and it is in these privately owned sections where the power of the corporations is absolute and where in fact the feudalism of the middle-ages still prevails, where the most cruel conditions have existed and the most outrageous crimes have been committed.

"It is with both pride and pleasure that we bear testimony to the uniformly brave spirit and high character of the comrades who have been on the firing line in the West Virginia struggle. They have fought one of the bravest and bloodiest fights in the industrial history of this country. Against overwhelming odds and with spies and sluggers dogging their footsteps they held their own to the very end.

"At the close of our labors we rejoiced to see the better understading that existed between the United Mine Workers and the Socialist Party, which we sought in every way to encourage and promote, and barring a very few who are bent upon arraying them against each other to their mutual undoing, we left the comrades in the best of spirits and with the assurance upon every hand, freely given, especially among the striking miners, that our visit had resulted in immeasurable good and that they would now take hold with renewed vigor and enthusiasm and push the work of organization, economic and political, in all the coal fields and throughout the state.

"The New River district, which has heretofore been impregnably fortified against unionism, is now open and Comrade Rogers, who was the intrepid leader there during the most critical period, came down to inform us before leaving that the movement was now spreading rapidly and that in the near future that entire region would be solidly organized.

"Of course, a few were disappointed because our mission was not a failure and because everything we demanded was conceded. These few, backed by the papers of the mine owners, did everything possible to discredit us, but without avail. Deliberate falsehood was resorted to when all else failed and the report was sent out that we had endorsed Governor Hatfield; that we had exonerated his administration; that we had approved his attitude and his acts; that we had been led into a trap by him, etc., etc., etc., the wish in each instance being father to the thought.

"The truth is that we did our duty and acted openly and honestly with everyone, Governor Hatfield not excepted. We freely admit having given the governor the credit he is justly entitled to for what he has done to protect the miners and punish their assailants, and while holding him responsible for every act of his administration, we insist that he shall not be held accountable for the crimes committed under the administration of his servile predecessor.

"Insidious influences have been and still are at work to create open rupture between the miners' union and the Socialist Party and to prevent such a calamity, especially at such a critical hour, we bent our united energies, and to this fact is due the false and misleading charges that have been put in circulation by the papers controlled by the mine owners and their allies in the labor movement. Great would have been the rejoicing among the coal barons and their henchmen if instead of seeking to heal the breach and creating harmony we had encouraged dissention and factional disruption instead of cooperation and good will had followed.

"There are still difficulties to be met; but for the first time the way is now open for organization and we repeat the hope so earnestly expressed before leaving the scene of investigation, that the mine workers and the Socialists now cease all bickering as between themselves and enter upon a state-wide campaign of education and organization to the end that in the near future the workers of West Virginia may take front rank among the most thoroughly organized states in the union.

"In closing it should be said that we did not incur the unnecessary expense of going to Washington, seeing that every point we contended for had been conceded and every duty for which we had been commissioned fulfilled.

"The committee was a unit in all its actions and all its conclusions and now respectfully submits this report with the recommendation that measures be taken to have the party represented by competent counsel at the forthcoming investigation.

"Fraternally,
"Victor L. Berger
"Adolph Germer
"Eugene V. Debs
Committee."

MURDERED BY ARMORED TRAIN

How Capitalists Kill and Terrify Their Slaves in "Free America."

Extracts from Testimony Presented to United States Senate Investigating Committee.

Reported by Sigurd Russell

These days of investigation are to be put down in the history of the West Virginia labor movement as days of joy, and hope—and at the same time the sorriest days for those corporate institutions that seek to perpetuate in this domain a system that has made its name a mockery. Insatiate greed has received from poor miners one drubbing that it will remember forever.

Among the men, women and children who have testified during the past week the most striking story is the one told by Calvin, who was on the Armored Special the night it carried death through Paint Creek.

He was sitting in a hotel of Charleston when one Quin Morton, a millionaire mine owner, came and endeavored to secure his services to ride on a special train, saying: "We want some good fighting men." Calvin declined. But a little later the sheriff of this county asked him to come and he accepted.

The train left Charleston that evening. It was composed of one steel lined car carrying a gatling gun and one passenger car carrying a number of gun men. At Pratt, the headquarters of the militia it stopped to receive ammunition from Captain Walker and another machine gun for the rear platform of the passenger car.

Before reaching Holly Grove, a town of striking miners, about eleven at night, all the lights were put out and the train slowed down. **The strikers and their families were in bed.**

Two blasts of the whistle were the signal for firing. Then there was a sudden roar, and a stream of fire from the side of the baggage car and guns and a continuous discharge was kept up until the peaceful village was left in the rear. Many were killed and wounded and but a few shots were returned.

Then Quin Morton, foaming in the mouth with rage because the strikers had stopped digging his coal and filling his pockets, according to the witness, ran through the coach and said: "Let's go back and give them another round." But even the brutes with him had more heart than he and replied: "No, there are women and children in those tents, we cannot do that."

Senator Martini of New Jersey then asked: "Who is this man Morton?" And the lawyers replied: "He is an operator and he will appear before you." Whereupon the senator said: "God help me then. God help me then."

Among the dozens of witnesses who have testified about this shooting up of Holly Grove, was Mrs Hall, who was shot through both feet while trying to take her children to shelter.

While testifying she was more anxious to tell about her Bible being shot through than about the injuries she had received herself. She said:

"There was no trouble in Holly Grove that night. The scathing fire from the death-dealing machine guns in the steel-lined car of the "Special" came without warning. The residents of this little mining town had gone to their beds, and in the darkness of the night the houses of the miners were riddled with bullets."

Over a hundred men, women and children have testified, telling stories of vicious and brutal treatment sustained. Of being kept from getting their mail for saying what they thought, and even of leaving their homes after work. Others told of hundreds of men being brought from New York City after having been offered all kinds of good jobs to the mines and being forced to become miners at the point of a gun. They were brought in locked car guarded by gun men.

Thousands of people have lived in these hills for the last ten years, living in actual slavery and being terrified. It is a long tale of greed, murder, peonage, graft and lawlessness.

The senators have been horrified. They promise immediate action, and it is a great credit to the American nation that at last its Senate is willing to think and act for the working class.

Let not the reader think that West Virginia is the only cancer of this kind in the Union. No. The whole South is bad. The East is bad. The West is bad. All over the land Labor is being crucified.

EVOLUTION OF THE CLASS WAR IN WEST VIRGINIA

By Sigurd Russell

The present conflict between Capital and Labor in West Virginia found its birth in Paint and Cabin Creeks, some twenty miles from Charleston.

At the time of the first strike some 10,000 miners and their families lived and worked in that section.

All the lands, roads, stores, and mines belonged to companies affiliated with the coal trusts—among them the great labor-loving International Correspondence School and among the stock holders men of prominence, political influence, senators, foreign holders, like the king of Italy and financiers like the Guggenheimers.

Little did the coal barons care of the fate of West Virginia as a state, and still less of the lives of the men who dug their coal.

In order to maintain in the integrity of their kingdoms and holdings, in order to increase their power and profits, they started a hellish machine known as "The Invisable Government." It crawled into the capital, the courts, the city halls and it alone rules, and above all laws and constitution.

To get men in the holes of their mines they shanaided them from the big cities, or their agents induced them to come under many illusions. Once here and miners they could not get out—they were slaves—surrounded by guards known as the "Baldwin Guards." The brutalities and crimes of these paid butchers are beyond the imagination of those who have not felt their blows or seen their murders.

The present struggle which now is state wide is the result of an open rebellion against the Baldwin Guard Organization, and it has been growing more and more general during the last fifteen months.

Labor well knows that before every Baldwin is jailed or out of the state no attempt of organization, for better wages and better conditions can be thought of.

In April, 1912, things came to a climax. The state organization of the United Mine Workers (U. M. W.) had succeeded in organizing sections into District No. 17 and they called a general strike. This strike had been anticipated by the mine operators. Several hundred Baldwin men had been lying in readiness in the hotels of Charleston. They were rushed to the field and half a dozen were distributed in each camp and the bloody work of hired assassins begun.

That first strike was nevertheless settled by a compromise that brought an increase in wages on May 1, 1912. All went back to work with the exception of the men on Paint Creek, Coal Creek and Briar Creek. The men who remained out were evicted from the companies' shacks, with their families and chattels, and were forced to camp in the woods miles from civilization. This story of eviction ranks among the most brutal acts of history.

The miners appealed for justice to all the courts of the land, from Justice of Peace to the Governor. They tried every channel of possible freedom. They even attempted to get an injunction against the Baldwin Guards through the Circuit Court but it was refused them.

In the first days of August a committee of two was sent to Charleston to have 500 circulars printed calling for a mass meeting at Eskdale on Cabin Creek and to see the U. M. W. in reference to getting speakers and starting a strike. But the local organization declined any responsibility as it never was in any financial position to act without the National Board.

Charles H. Boswell and John W. Brown, to whom they appealed, told them that Mother Jones was at Montgomery and that she would lead the miners. They saw her and she agreed to come, refusing the body guard that the committee offered her. The county road that she had to follow ran in a number of places through the Coal River; and as on each side of it was private property and threatening Baldwins, she, a woman 80 years old, had to wade the river. At this meeting of August 6th Mother Jones organized 600 miners into the U. M. W. of District 17. The men who joined the union and others who attended following meetings were promptly discharged and evicted from their homes. So the lockout became general.

The acts of brutality of the guards became so unbearable that the officials of the U. M. W. begged the Governor to send the militia. They came and martial law was declared. They disarmed the Baldwins and the miners on both creeks and 2,000 rifles, 200,000 rounds of ammunition, 6 machine guns and wagon loads of small weapons were confiscated. Very few of them from the poor miners.

When the militia arrived it was welcomed with joy by the miners. They felt themselves free men. It was the first feeling of liberty that they had had for ten years. But the ranks of the militia were not complete and many a Baldwin Guard joined it on the spot. Peace was restored but the strike went on, the miners living through a bitter winter in tents, the Baldwins not daring to stir. Then martial law was called off and the brutes returned and let loose their rage and clashes became general. The thugs who had heretofore infested the field had been ex-jail birds and penitentiary men. But after martial law their ranks were made up of ex-militia men paid from $3.00 to $5.00 a day and expenses. An ex-major of the militia was at the head of the new Baldwin corps and it did its dirty business according to military science. At that time they were not called "guards" but "watchmen."

All winter the situation grew worse, the miners living in tents were terrorized and many were killed and beaten up. On Feb. 7, 1913, an armoured train passed through Holly Grove, the camps of the strikers. In the middle of the night, with lights out and having on Bonner Hill, Sheriff of Kenawha County; Quinn Morton, a coal operator; Baldwin Guards and other officials, thugs and operators with gattling guns, they fired right and left and butchered many men, women and children. Feb. 8th the guards of Wall Street property fired into the camps from 10 a. m. to 2 p. m. and continued their firing for two days. The miners had appealed to the Governor for help and waited in terror to be protected. Then hearing that gattling guns were placed all over the hills to exterminate them the miners mobilized a badly armed force and defended themselves. They even captured three gattlings, but not knowing how to use these $1,800.00 weapons, were forced to demolish them. The situation was practically the same all over Paint and Cabin Creeks and finally the militia came a second time. But only the miners this time were disarmed. The story of the reign of "Militarism" is better known than the facts above written. So it is sufficient to say that they usurped all power and authority, established military court, and executed the biddings of the coal barons in a course of vengeance and tyranny. All civic action became impossible and the Supreme Court of the State sustained the ruling that the Governor was their ex-officio commander with more unquestionable power than any kaiser, czar or king.

The strike was settled with a compromise and the miners are worse off than before. Martial law is still on, the Baldwin Guards, the ex-officio Governor, militarism and the coal barons are all still here.

The miners say, "We will have to fight it all over again," and this bitter conflict between organized capital and disorganized labor is soon going to break out again and years will have to pass before one of the combatants goes down.

WEST VIRGINIA AND THE SOUTH

By J. L. Engdahl

Victory for the coal miners and for the Socialist Party in West Virginia means an invasion of the "Solid South" by the American labor movement unsurpassed by anything that has happened up to the present time.

It is said of West Virginia that it is the most northern of the Southern States, the most southern of the Northern States, the most western of the Eastern States and the most eastern of the Western States. One look at the map verifies this view of West Virginia's geographical location, at the same time making very apparent its strategic position.

If it is impossible for labor to make progress in West Virginia then "The South" is hopeless until this condition will have changed. At the present time the economic and political movement of labor have little of which to feel proud in "The South."

Once West Virginia has been won, however, the outlook immediately becomes much brighter. This is true for various reasons. There are about 30,000 negro voters in West Virginia. Most of them of course vote the Republican ticket, while the bosses on the job use them as a foil against the native and foreign white worker.

Many of the West Virginia negroes work in the coal mines, and live as next door neighbors to the white miners. The situation is often found where three miners' cabins adjacent to each other successively house the family of a native white miner, a colored miner and a foreign white miner. If race prejudice is to be beaten down in the economic and political struggle of the working class for its own emancipation, West Virginia is the place to make the first big beginning.

Then if it can be done for the miners of West Virginia it can be done for the miners of Old Virginia, of Kentucky, Tennessee and Alabama. There are no union miners among the 15,000 coal diggers of Old Virginia. There is an organization of growing strength in Kentucky, the semblance of a union in Tennessee, while an attempt is now being made to rehabilitate the power of the United Mine Workers that was annihilated in Alabama in 1909.

While West Virginia has its rapidly passing Baldwin Guard System, the miners in these Southern States confront what is known as the "contract system." Through the contract system the working of the mines is let out to contractors who hire men to work in gangs under them. It so happens that the contractors are white men while the gangs are made up of colored miners, thus establishing a race distinction very favorable to the interests of the mine owners.

The Baldwin Guards of West Virginia are a detriment to the organization of the West Virginia miners just as the contract system is a detriment to the organization of the southern mine workers. It is absolutely necessary that they should both be wiped out.

To Save the Christian Socialist

A New Plan Is Necessary

Comrades and Friends Are Requested to Read This Statement Through Carefully

Since the **Christian Socialist** started ten years ago scores of Socialist papers, some of them with considerable money or official influence behind them. have perished; yet this paper, with no capital, no official influence and many powerful enemies, has lived and done a mighty work. Millions of copies of the **Christian Socialist**, bearing their glorious message of the essential identity of true Socialism and true religion, have gone out all over the United States, Canada and to many foreign lands. In every state of our Union and in almost every foreign country there are those who love this paper because it has converted either themselves or their dear friends to Socialism and because it expresses the highest and most precious views of human justice, brotherhood and God's Kingdom on earth that they ever knew.

AND THE **CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST** HAS CONVERTED THOUSANDS TO SOCIALISM, besides giving to thousands more a grander view of religion and of human life. It has won hundreds of preachers and teachers to Socialism also, and added to the movement hundreds of workingmen. And its great and vital work has only begun.

THEREFORE THE **CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST** MUST LIVE AND BECOME A YET GREATER POWER FOR GOOD.

But in order to live, a change of plan is necessary. We have been selling the paper for ten years at a price too low to pay expenses and then begging for money to meet the annual deficit, hoping that by this method we could get a circulation large enough to pay its way at the present price. **But we now see that it cannot be done.** We have tried for years not to see this, to realize the impossible and make the paper a success at a low price without capital. But we have at last been forced to surrender to the inevitable and admit that we must take a different course.

DURING THE LAST YEAR WE HAVE WELL-NIGH DESPAIRED OF THE PAPER'S LIFE; and but for a large amount of unpaid labor and the generosity of some friends it would have perished. But now we have made new plans and our hearts are strengthened.

1. In order to keep the debt down to a point where it can be handled WE HAVE DECIDED TO CUT EXPENSES THIS SUMMER in two ways; first, reduce our printing and mailing bills 50 per cent by omitting the mid-month number until October, issuing the paper as a monthly only through June, July, August and September; and, second, to put the editor and all the office force on half pay for three months.

This is drastic treatment, especially for the editor, who has a large family and who has already heretofore been compelled to earn a portion of his salary by work as a lecturer. But only so can we keep the debt from growing this summer.

(Our total debt is only $3,000.00, and there probably are men who will read this who could send us a check for the whole amount and not miss it a month from now!)

2. WE MUST INCREASE THE PRICE OF THE PAPER.

After October first the price of this paper (twice a month) will be $1.00 per year, three subs for $2, or ten subs for $5.00. No lower price under any circumstances.

The recent deaths of the Daily Socialist of Chicago, the National Socialist of Washington, D. C., and the Coming Nation, lately moved to Chicago from Girard, put altogether sufficient emphasis upon the need of our adopting a safer business policy unless we desire the **Christian Socialist** soon to meet a like fate. And we are therefore compelled to ask our readers to pay a price that will enable the paper to meet expenses and perhaps afford some money with which to publish needful books. (We might beg the money to publish a few books, but we cannot keep the paper alive another six months on the charity plan.)

We have been very slow to learn this lesson **—only the coming face to face with certain death on the old plan** caused us to realize the absolute necessity of the change of price.

In view of these facts and our ten years of struggle to make the old plan a success, we feel sure that every fair-minded reader, especially every one who loves this paper and its glorious message will say "Amen! You have done right. And we will work harder than ever to make the **Christian Socialist** live and grow so that the co-operative commonwealth may be hastened to bless ourselves or at latest our children."

Price for the Summer Unchanged

Here Is Your Chance To Do Some Grand Work For the Cause, Your Community and This Paper

In order to encourage every live comrade who cares for the cause of Socialism, who desires to win his community to Socialism and who wishes to help the **Christian Socialist** fight the battles of the working class among the religious millions of America, and also to prevent a disastrous summer slump in our subscription list, we have decided to continue the old prices during the hot weather, and to make a few special offers.

1. All single new subscriptions and all renewals will yet be accepted at 60c each for the year. After October first all renewals and single new subs will be $1.00 each.

2. If you send one renewal and one new sub., or two new subs., or a renewal for two years, either of the two will be $1.00. After October first three new subs. for $2.00 will be the best we can do for so few.

3. And, to encourage you to hustle a little in a manner worth while for the cause this summer you may have as many new subs. as you wish for 50c each, **provided you send two or more.** And you may renew for as many years as you please (for the C. S. will live and grow) at 50c per year, **provided you renew for two years or more before October first.** (Here is a chance for every loyal reader to loan us a little money on subscription to remove the debt and enable us to do better work. Your risk is too small to consider. Send us $2.00, $3.00, $5.00 or $10.00 on this plan.)

Comrade, DO A LITTLE WARM WORK for Socialism during the hot weather, and for the life of the **Christian Socialist.** Begin today—surely begin this week.

While we suffer extreme poverty and struggle for the cause this summer, please spend a little of your time on the firing line for new subs. and for renewals.

THE LIFE, GROWTH AND POWER OF THE **CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST** DEPEND ON YOUR EFFORTS NOW. Without YOU we can do nothing.

FRONT PORCH CAMPAIGN

Do you see that man sitting on his front porch in his shirt sleeves? Well, we want his subscription to the **Christian Socialist.** Go and get it.

Now is the time to find out what a lot of good neighbors you have that you have never really got acquainted with. Take a walk across the lawns these warm summer evenings, and introduce the **Christian Socialist.** You can talk Socialism in hot weather if you keep cool about it. Why should we have a summer slump? **Send in the subs.**

The **CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST** has a field all its own and various recent political events have greatly hastened the harvest. With your co-operation, comrades, during the next few months we will be able to enter this field with better equipment, enlarge the paper, strengthen its editorial force, and in various ways increase the efficiency of the **CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST.**

THE CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST

Semi-Monthly, Published by
THE CO-OPERATIVE PRINTING CO.
Address: 5457 Drexel Ave., Chicago
Telephone, Midway 2349

Subscription Price....................$1.00 per year
Three yearly subs., $2.00. Ten yearlies, $5.00

Special Monthly Edition...............50c per year
Five S. M. E. subs. ordered at once, $2.00

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Please do not send stamps for subscriptions or bundle orders above 50 cents. Do not send personal checks for less than $10.00, as we have to pay exchanges on all checks, unless you add 10c for exchange. We cannot be responsible for any money sent in letters. Use bank drafts, postoffice money orders or express orders.

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* * *

PRAY IN DEED

By M. J. Connolly

Pray we daily to our Father,
  Pleading that His kingdom come—
With our lips that prayer we offer,
  While our hearts and souls are dumb.
If we truly loved our Father,
  We would love His children, too;
Justice then would be our passion—
  We'd not only pray, but DO!

NEXT C. S. FELLOWSHIP MEETING AT CHICAGO

Rev. D. D. Vaughan, pastor of the M. E. Church at Harvey, Ill., will give the address of the afternoon at the Chicago Christian Socialist Fellowship meeting Sunday afternoon, June 29th, at Masonic Temple, **Hall 803.** The lecture will be at three o'clock, preceded by a song service.

Comrade Vaughan has recently declared himself a Socialist and has joined the Fellowship. We urge all the members to invite their friends and let us have a splendid audience to greet our brother in his stand for Socialism.

DEGREES CONFERRED

Ruskin College, by unanimous vote of the Faculty and also of the Board of Directors, authorized its President, Dr. George McA. Miller, to confer upon Rev. W. D. P. Bliss of New York, General Secretary of the Christian Socialist Fellowship and author of the Encyclopedia of Social Reform, the degree of Doctor of Divinity. Also upon Rev. Edward Ellis Carr, of Chicago, editor of the **Christian Socialist**, the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

MORE PAPERS DEAD

Since the death of the Chicago Daily (Socialist) World, which cast a gloom over the general American movement, the recent failures of the National Socialist of Washington, D. C., and of the Coming Nation, lately removed from Girard to Chicago, have made the most profound impressions.

The National Socialist deserved to die because of its venal and unfair methods of warfare; but the Coming Nation was a great and worthy paper and its sudden suspension, without warning, naturally shocks the comrades generally. The full meaning of this failure we may never know; but one lesson is clear—a real family Socialist weekly cannot be produced at the price of $1.00 per year nor without large capital back of it.

The Christian Socialist, having struggled in vain for ten years to furnish a worthy paper at an imp[illegible]ible price and to cover the deficit by gifts begged from not overwilling donors, has now had its ample warning.

We propose that the **Christian Socialist** shall live and not die, therefore the price must be increased as stated in another column.

SOWING IN TEARS

One of the bravest, most sacrificing and ceaseless workers for socialism is Mrs. Ella Carr. God alone knows what she has endured for the cause and for this paper during the last ten years. Today I found her utterly depressed and weeping because the receipts are so low and the debt so large this summer—**and she is not the weeping but the working kind.** She was even then preparing to go out and arrange for lectures to help keep the wolf at bay while we work for the cause—and **"those who sow in tears shall reap in joy."** If you who read this could realize what sacrifices have been made by several who have helped to keep this paper alive during these years you would surely DO YOUR BEST to send a few more subs **this week.**

We will not let the paper die—but we need your help to get new subs **now.**

Comparison of this year, both as to financial returns and subscriptions, with any former year of this paper leaves no room for discouragement, except that the price has been too low to pay all expenses without donations. The mailing list holds up well, and, year by year, moves slowly ahead. Let us make it increase faster; for the great possibilities of the future, with the united effort of all those who realize the strategic advantage of the **Christian Socialist** movement, will result in wonderful progress along the lines of Socialism in general and Christian Socialism in particular. "Be of good courage."

We have one resource, a most potent factor in all the past years, that, like the widow's cruise of oil, remains undiminished. This resource is our unfaltering faith—faith in the mission of the **CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST**, in those who have nobly made our work possible, and in the greater future of the paper.

READ IT ALL

West Virginia marks the battle lines of the fiercest conflict just now consciously going on between capitalists and laborers in America. We hope you will read carefully every word of our various reports on another page concerning this notable, terrible and meaningful struggle. Keep posted on the class war or you can not understand present day political and social movements.

The report of the Socialist party committee appointed by the national committee to investigate conditions in West Virginia which is given on another page should be carefully read by every one.

Fred H. Merrick, editor of "Justice" at Pittsburg, declares that the committee was in a sense captured or captivated and misled by Gov. Hatfield. John Kenneth Turner who is writing for the "Appeal to Reason" thinks the committee's report is entirely too favorable to Gov. Hatfield's regime.

Certain it is that the battle is not yet won for freedom in West Virginia, and a determined effort is to be made by the Socialist party to spread its propaganda in that state more extensively and effectively than ever, and the United Mine Workers are preparing to press the work of unionizing the W. Va. miners as never before. So it seems that lasting good will yet come to that unfortunate state as a result of the unjust and illegal imprisonment of old Mother Jones.

FREE SUGAR—NOT YET

No, Mabel, "free sugar" as discussed in the current tariff gossip does not mean that the poor working people will get sugar without paying enough for it to make certain opulent gentlemen still more plethoric. When we establish socialism, however, we will obtain sugar and everything else at the actual cost of production—which will make our income go much farther and prevent any one from getting rich at our expense.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN ILLINOIS

The Illinois Legislature has passed a woman suffrage bill authorizing women to vote in all municipal elections for state educational officers and for presidential electors. This is as far as the legislature could go. In order to empower women to vote for U. S. senators, congressmen, governors, and state legislators the state constitution must be amended, which will doubtless be done shortly.

Illinois is the third State of the Union in point of population and the first State east of the Mississippi, or bordering it, to adopt woman suffrage.

It is a great and inspiring triumph for woman's rights and the suffragists are jubilant the world over.

POTATOES THROWN AWAY

In Chicago during June there was such a large supply of old potatoes that the wholesale price fell to 19c per bushel, and carloads were dumped into the lake; but the retail price of old potatoes remained at 80c per bushel—and tens of thousands of people were too poor to buy.

Retail business under capitalism is wholesale robbery on the part of the associated retail dealers, and wholesale insanity on the part of the exploited people. Socialism would cure both.

WAS JESUS A SOCIALIST?

The ministers of Utica, N. Y., becoming afraid that the Socialists would take Jesus from them, spent a session of their association discussing whether Jesus was really a Socialist. Many good things were said and some that will not stand the test, particularly with reference to Christ's attitude toward rich men; but the mere fact that a preachers' union considered it necessary to discuss whether Jesus was a Socialist is very significant. Next time they will go farther and make some real discoveries.

THE MOST BRUTAL EPISODE

Perhaps the most brutal and diabolical episode in the American labor struggle was the unprovoked use of the armored train from which a stream of fiery death was poured out of rifles and machine guns against the defenseless men, women and children of a West Virginia mining town as told in Sigurd Russell's article in this issue and in the United States Senate investigation now going on. The mine operators of West Virginia are "sowing the whirlwind" which they and theirs must reap.

GO TO YOUR NEXT LOCAL MEETING

At considerable expense for postage and printing the National Office has sent a letter to every local in the United States, together with a prospectus and a copy of the weekly Party Builder containing the details of the Lyceum plan for the coming year. The whole assortment of matter sent fully describes everything that anybody may want to know about the Lyceum Course.

What is needed now is for every Socialist Party Member to attend his next Local meeting to decide positively "yes" or "no" on whether your Local will take the Lyceum. This cannot be postponed till next fall. It must be decided **now.**

The continuation of the Lyceum Department by the National Committee was made conditional on the securing of 600 contracts within a limited time. If 600 applications are received, you will have the Lyceum Course. If not, then the Lyceum Course will not be put on this year.

If your Local has not received the letter above referred to by June 22nd, address Socialist Party, Lyceum Department, L. E. Katterfeld, Mgr., 111 N. Market St., Chicago, Ill., who will forward particulars.

Go to your next Local meeting and cast your vote on the Lyceum Course.

The Christian Socialist, one year	**.60**
The International Socialist Review,	**$1.00**
Total	**$1.60**
Both for	**1.10**

The Christian Socialist FELLOWSHIP

GENERAL SECRETARY
REV. W. D. P. BLISS, D. D., 80 Bible House, New York, N. Y.

GENERAL TREASURER
PROF. EDWIN MARKHAM, 80 Bible House, New York, N. Y.

GENERAL FIELD SECRETARY
REV. E. E. CARR, Ph. D., 5457 Drexel Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

GENERAL SECRETARY FOR COLORED RACE
REV. GEO. W. SLATER, Clinton, Iowa

GENERAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
of Twenty-five.

TO MEMBERS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

Dear Comrade:

The General Secretary and Treasurer of the Christian Socialist Fellowship are anxious to get the Fellowship into active work and full life.

We are preparing a plan of activities for Local Centers, and for individual members at large. We believe there is something each one can do, and we are convinced that the need and the opportunity were never greater. It appears to us that it is only Christian Socialism that can save both the country and the real Church of Christ. To this end we are very anxious to get into personal touch with every member of the Fellowship throughout the country, active or associate, with dues paid up or not, provided he or she is willing to become active and help us in any way. We need money, but we need work more. We ask, therefore, all friends of the cause to write us what you think can or should be done in your community, and then we will send you our suggestions. Join with us and let us get to work.

Yours faithfully and sincerely,
W. D. P. BLISS.
EDWIN MARKHAM.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY TO JUNE FIRST, NINETEEN THIRTEEN.

Your General Secretary has thus far made no formal report for the Fellowship, because, since his election, it has taken considerable time to get the work at all organized. The exhaustion of proper, printed forms and blanks has much delayed the work, and the list of members is still incomplete, owing to the fact that many have failed to pay dues, and it has been a question of whether they were or were not members of the Fellowship.

Now, however, we believe that the prospect is very good all along the line. Your Secretary has two definite centers to report to the Executive Committee for their acceptance—a Christian Socialist Center in New York City, and one in Warren, Ohio. There is also correspondence about Centers in Independence, Kansas, Leon, West Virginia, New Stanton, Pa., with inquiries from other places. The New York Center is now fairly under way. A meeting was held to organize May 22nd, at which, in spite of rain and of small notice, twenty appeared, practically all deciding to join the Center. Comrade Edwin Markham was chosen chairman, the Rev. John A. Bevington, treasurer, and W. D. P. Bliss, secretary. A larger meeting will be held June 5th, and we hope to be able to report a Center of 200 members before very long. There is a plan for an active campaign in the churches of New York and vicinity, though this may not develop fully until the fall.

Comrade Smiley has been active in Maryland, with two Centers—in Baltimore, and in Annapolis. Comrade Prosser and others have been doing good work in West Elizabeth, Pa., and the Center there is very active. The Comrades in Niles, Ohio, also are preparing for activities in their Center. Comrade Prosser preached for them on April 27th, with large results.

We are receiving inquiries from various portions of the country, and believe now that the Fellowship is on the up-grade. The Treasurer, Comrade Markham, and your Secretary have sent out circulars, a copy of which will be found elsewhere in this paper. We desire to get into touch with each member of the Fellowship, if possible, all through the country, and to receive from each one suggestions for local activities. We are preparing a circular upon local activities, but shall not issue it until we have had a chance to get answers to this preliminary circular; then, when all suggestions are in, we shall formulate plans for activities which we hope may suit the needs of various Centers and individual members. Spring time is planting time, and we may not be able to show much result at present, but we hope the autumn will show a good harvest. The field is truly ready.

The following letter your Secretary wrote for the New York Call in starting the Center in New York City, and we append it to this report, believing that it may be suggestive of similar letters to be written by others in forming Centers in various parts of the country. After all, the problem in the various cities is substantially the same, and substantially the same methods should be followed in meeting the problem.

The receipts of the Fellowship since your Secretary and Treasurer have come into office up to June 1st, 1913, amount to $92.90, of which $51.82 was received from Comrade Prosser as the balance from last year; $20 from the Chicago Center for due stamps; $7.00 has been received in donations and $14.08 in general dues, (besides the New York Center). The expenditures have been: for incorporations, $30; stationery, $22.50; postage and incidentals, $18.00.

The receipts for dues have been small, because our first circular asking for their payment was only mailed May 29. We hope and believe that a large number of dues will soon be paid. At present every sign seems hopeful.

IS IT WORTH WORKING FOR?

"I am still in the harness struggling for the better day and THE BEST HELP IS THE CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST."—Fred Bippert, Buffalo, N. Y. He sends $5.00 for subs to prove his sincerity.

"I thank you for what your paper has done to help me obtain a clearer view of the work of Christianizing the World."—(Rev.) James Waite, Burgettstown, Pa.

"THE CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST IS A NECESSITY IN OUR FORWARD MOVEMENT. I WISH ALL THE COMRADES WOULD TAKE IT."—Geo. E. Hennt, Lexington, N. C.

"THE CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST IS THE BEST MEANS OF SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS."—C. Barnhart, Rochester, N. Y.

"THE CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST is doing the work no other paper is doing."—W. J. Click, Comanche, Okla.

"The finest Socialist paper I ever read."—H. S. Irwin, Juliaetta, Ida.

"It reaches a class that no other paper does."—Cecil Colfee, Atlanta, Ga.

"I can hardly wait for the paper to come. It is wonderful."—W. E. Throckmartin, Garner, Tex.

"The best paper on earth. Keep my name on the list."—Frank M. Harrell, Gossett, Ill.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT THIS WEEK? SEND A CLUB OF NEW SUBS? YES, DO THAT.

THE SCRUB-WOMAN POET

"A Few Gingles" is the modest title of a neat little booklet of verse published by Mrs. Elizabeth Hetherington who makes her living by scrubbing floors, even though she is seventy-two years of age.

Scrubbing is not a very inspirational task, especially for an aged woman, and that she is able in spite of aching back and weary muscles to sing at her work proves that she is quite an exceptional old woman.

"Who will do the dirty work under Socialism?" Certainly not the poor old outworn men and women who are forced by poverty after a life of toil to do it now.

The verses which open the little volume begin with the following:

Peace

At peace with all mankind,
Oh speed the happy day
When earth is one vast paradise
And perfect love holds sway.

Romance has not yet fled from the old woman's heart:

Marjory

It would be bliss on summer eve,
To roam, beloved, with thee
On mountain side, or with thee glide
Over the deep blue sea.

And we will find some fairy glen
In which to pitch our tent,
Far from the haunts of busy men,
That we may live content.

There are ten poems in the book, some of them very sweet, especially the one about the child Kate; but the booklet, though beautifully printed, is not likely to market largely, and anyone who feels like sending Mrs. Hetherington a dime for it will have the satisfaction of helping a brave and interesting old lady bear her burdens more easily. Address her at 5535 Ellis avenue, Chicago.

THE NEGRO AND SOCIALISM

By Rev. Geo. W. Slater, Jr., Sec'y to the Colored Race for the Christian Socialist Fellowship

Both as Secretary to the Colored Race for the Christian Socialist Fellowship and also as a lecturer for the party, I have worked not a little among my people. There obtains among them in regards to Socialism three things: 1. They are very much prejudiced against the word Socialism; 2. Their past experience and present condition make them quite susceptible to the doctrines of the Co-operative Commonwealth; 3. The colored people readily take a deep interest, when once they fully understand its tenets.

The colored people almost to a man are of the working class. There are fully 12,000,000 under the stars and stripes. Comrades, what a field for propaganda work during the next four years. This field has been woefully neglected. They can be won and are being won to our cause.

Quite frequently colored newspapers, preachers teachers and assemblies are collegiate Press, recommending the study and encouragement of Socialism. Recently in Florida a colored Baptist convention spent a whole day in discussing Socialism, and ended up by endorsing its teachings. One of the leading negro journals accepts articles from me on Socialism. These are straws.

At this stage of propaganda work among my people, the best method is to supply them with simple literature on the subject, written by some colored man. The fact that some colored person wrote it will get their attention and they will read it through carefully—this will be good seed sown.

For this kind of propaganda, I have just the literature which the Centers, locals and individual comrades can order very reasonable in bundles, or if they send me names and addresses, with four cents for each name, I will mail the literature to each person sealed. In some localities this is the better plan for several obvious reasons.

I have on hand the following literature:

1. Blackmen Strike for Liberty, by Geo. W. Slater, 5c each, 12 for 10c, 25 for 25c, 50 for 40c, 100 for 70c, 300 for $1.25, 500 for $2.50, 1000 for $3.00.

2. The Advantages Socialism Offers the Negro, by Dr. J. T. Whitson, price 5c each, 3 for 10c, 100 for $2.00.

CHRISTENTUM AND SOZIALISMUS

(Christianity and Socialism)

An eleven-page pamphlet setting forth the teachings of international Socialism from the standpoint of the Christian religion in the German language. Just the thing to distribute among German church people, who would be more readily appealed to by literature in their native tongue, and who are usually prejudiced against Socialism on account of the anti-religious attitude of most of the German Socialist press and literature. Price 5c apiece, 25c a dozen, $1.00 a hundred, prepaid; or $5.00 a thousand by express not prepaid.

Send orders to J. G. Evert, Hillsboro, Kans.